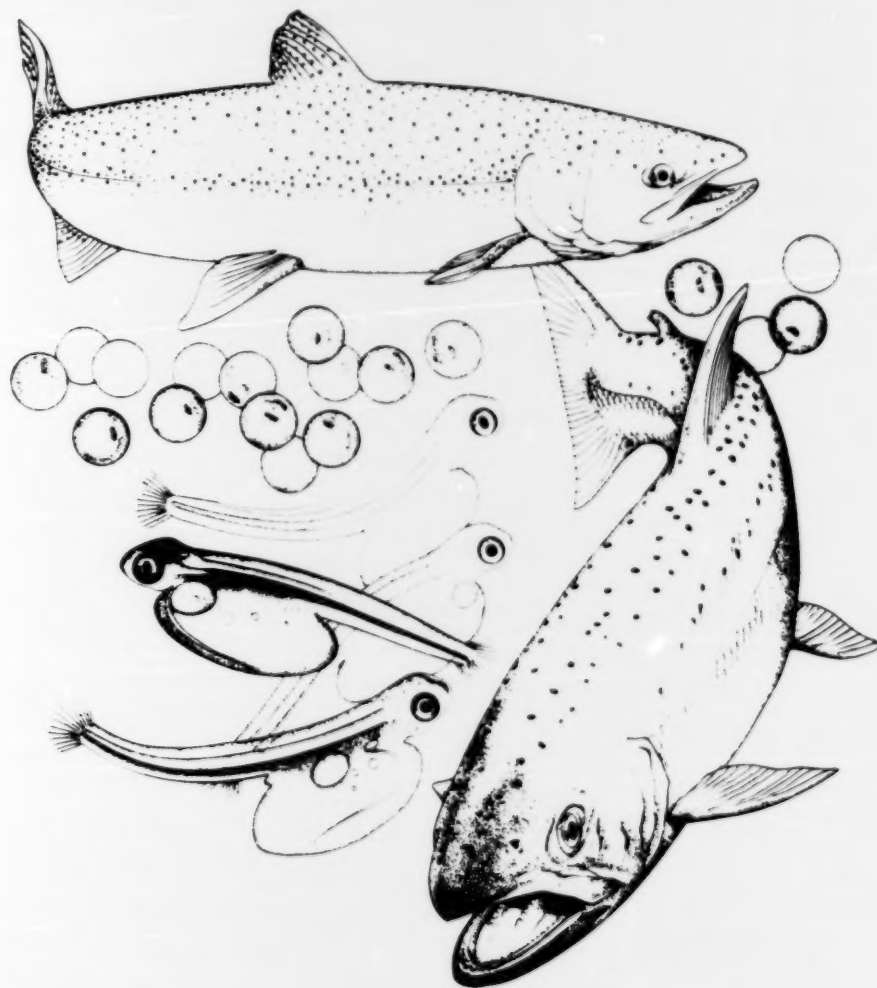




LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING FOR COASTAL FINFISH AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT



Province of British Columbia

**Ministry of
Agriculture and Fisheries**

Aquaculture and Commercial
Fisheries Branch

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs**

Development Services Branch

1987

Canadian Cataloguing in Publication Data

Main entry under title:

Local government planning for coastal finfish aquaculture development

Co-published by Aquaculture and Commercial Fisheries Branch.

ISBN 0-7726-0660-9

1. Aquaculture industry - Government policy - British Columbia. 2. Aquaculture - Law and legislation - British Columbia. 3. Fish-culture - Government policy - British Columbia. 4. Coastal zone management - Law and legislation - British Columbia. I. British Columbia. Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Development Services Branch. II. British Columbia. Aquaculture and Commercial Fisheries Branch.

KEB347.L62 1987 346.71104'6956 C87-092107-X

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING
FOR
COASTAL FINFISH AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT**

PREFACE

This publication has been prepared to assist local governments with planning for the finfish aquaculture industry now developing along the British Columbia coastline.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has several publications which provide detailed information on aspects of the aquaculture industry. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs also has publications available to help with the implementation of planning provisions in the Municipal Act which are mentioned in this guide.

**Development Services Branch
MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS
May 1987**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S ROLE	2
3. ROLE OF SENIOR GOVERNMENTS	3
4. REQUIREMENTS OF THE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY	4
5. APPROACH TO LOCAL PLANNING.....	6
6. THE PROVINCIAL APPROVALS PROCESS.....	9
7. CONCLUSION.....	12
APPENDIX 1. KEY CONTACTS.....	13
APPENDIX 2. PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ROLES REGARDING THE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY.....	18

PLANNING AND ZONING FOR COASTAL FINFISH AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

Aquaculture is a general term attached to a complex and variable array of activities associated with food production in coastal and inland waters and along shorelines.*

The rapid pace of expansion of the aquaculture industry in coastal British Columbia has placed pressures upon municipalities, regional districts and the Islands Trust to respond to new land and water uses, and to reconcile potential conflicts between uses. Where appropriate, the designation of areas suited to aquaculture in official community plans, and preparation and enforcement of bylaws and permits will facilitate aquaculture development and operation and avoid conflict.

In remote undeveloped areas, where land is predominantly in Crown ownership and private lease or ownership is not foreseen, local government regulation is not encouraged. However, there may be special situations where a degree of local government support and regulation may be necessary. In any case, local governments will usually have information on public use of these areas and can supply this when requested to comment on proposed aquaculture operations by the Ministry of Forests and Lands, District Land Manager.

It is the intent of this guide to help local governments determine where and how to plan and regulate aquaculture development with careful consideration given to both local and industry requirements. However the guide is not prescriptive. It does not spell out planning designations or bylaw provisions, since this must be done with reference to anticipated forms of aquaculture development and local conditions. Hence a checklist approach is used rather than a "model" approach which might overlook important considerations or not deal adequately with either local government or industry needs.

This guide also places local governments' role in the context of federal and provincial agency responsibilities for land allocation and resource management. It emphasizes the importance of early and ongoing cooperation between all levels of government to avoid needless regulation and duplication.

* This guide does not address the development of mariculture or fresh-water finfish aquaculture, or upland salt-water aquaculture.

In the following sections local government authority under the Municipal Act is briefly outlined. The roles of federal and provincial agencies are then described following which requirements of the industry are highlighted. Finally key steps are presented and questions posed to assist local governments in planning for aquaculture.

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING AND REGULATION:

Local government authority relates primarily to the use and development of land, including areas of Crown land or water surfaces which have been alienated through leases or licenses of occupation to the private sector.

Under the Municipal Act local governments may state, in their official community plans, broad objectives, policies and guidelines respecting present and proposed land uses and development. These may be implemented through zoning bylaws, development permits, temporary commercial and industrial use permits, building permits, servicing strategies, and budget allocations. Regional districts and the Islands Trust may also use rural land use bylaws for planning and regulation. Land, as defined in the Municipal Act, includes the surface of water. Hence any form of local government regulation which may be applied to land may also be applied to water.

Local government may by bylaw define zones and within these regulate:

- a) the use of land, buildings or structures;
- b) the density of the use of land, buildings and structures;
- c) the siting, size and dimensions of buildings and structures, and;
- d) the area, shape and dimensions of all parcels of land that may be created by subdivision under the Land Title Act or the Condominium Act, (Section 963(1)).

The power to regulate includes the power to prohibit any use or uses in any zone or zones, (Section 963(3)).

Areas may be designated as development permit areas in official community plans for the purpose of protecting the natural environment and for guiding the form and character of commercial and industrial development. (Section 945(4)). Where these areas are designated a local government may set conditions and make requirements of a development prior to the issuance of a building permit or approval of a subdivision. (Section 976).

Municipalities may by bylaw regulate business (Section 526). "... for the purpose of protecting the public or preventing or minimizing nuisances....". Defining a nuisance is, in general, at the discretion of local government but, with respect to aquaculture potentially may apply to noise, perching of birds, disposal of wastes, and unsightly premises (Section 932).

The authority to prepare plans, to zone, to regulate buildings and structures, and business operations are all discretionary or at the option of each individual local government.*

3. ROLE OF SENIOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

In determining what measures are appropriate to include in local government plans, permits, regulations or licenses it is important to consider the roles and functions of provincial and federal government agencies. This will help to avoid costly and complicated duplication of regulations. In general terms, these roles are as follows:

- The British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is the lead agency responsible for development and co-ordination of the provincial aquaculture program.
- The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans has, as its primary role, the management of the wildstock marine fisheries and the protection of their habitat.
- The Ministry of Forests and Lands (B.C. Lands) is responsible for allocating Crown land, foreshore and water areas. The Crown land allocation process is described in Chapter 6, pages 9 - 11.
- The Ministry of Environment and Parks is responsible for setting and enforcing environmental standards.
- The Ministry of Economic Development has financial assistance programs which facilitate the development of the industry.

For more details on the roles of Provincial agencies refer to Appendix 2, pages 18 - 20.

The regulatory framework for aquaculture is, as with the industry, in a state of rapid evolution. However, even existing legislation requires a great deal of an aquaculturist in order for a venture to proceed and indeed to continue to exist. Using salmon farming as an example, the following is a sample of what is required of an aquaculturist in terms of land use and environmental matters under federal and provincial legislation.

* Local government includes regional districts, municipalities (cities, towns, villages and district municipalities) and the Islands Trust. Regional districts do not have business licensing authority and only some have authority for noise, nuisance or animal control under Section 932 of the Municipal Act. The Islands Trust does not have business licensing authority, nor can it use the powers of Section 932. Regional districts may use the provisions of this section the Islands Trust area. Some regional districts or portions of these do not have building regulation authority nor does the Islands Trust, however, in some parts of the Islands Trust area there are building regulations in effect under the authority of a regional district or municipality.

- a) Under the Land Act (B.C.), tenure over Crown land (including foreshore and water surfaces) must be obtained from the Ministry of Forests and Lands. Preconditions include compliance with local regulations, approved development plans for the farm, approval of spacing of the farm from other farms and from salmon bearing streams.
- b) Under the Fish Inspection Acts (B.C. and Canada), fish processing facilities are inspected and are required to remove offal and other solid wastes to a rendering plant daily. These wastes cannot be released into the marine environment. The B.C. Waste Management Act regulates the discharge of effluents.
- c) Under the Navigable Waters Act (Canada), the placement of any structure in the water that may affect navigation or pose a navigation hazard must be approved by the Canadian Coast Guard. Where necessary, navigational buoys, markers and lights are required. The Coast Guard considers all aspects of navigation including anchorage for storm conditions and for summer recreational uses.
- d) Under the Fish Health Protection Regulations, Fisheries Act (Canada), the Veterinary Act (B.C.) and the Livestock Disease Control Act (B.C.), general matters of fish health are managed and regulated. For example, farm operators are required to report disease outbreaks in farm fish stocks and the use of drugs on the farm is regulated.

Following Cabinet review of the report of the Chairman of the 1986 B.C. Finfish Aquaculture Inquiry, the Ministry of Forests and Lands was assigned responsibility for conducting coastal resource identification studies in the Campbell River - Johnstone Strait, Sechelt Inlet and Islands Trust areas. These studies, due for completion by mid-1987, will provide information on areas where high competing resource or land use values would either preclude or limit the siting of aquaculture tenures or require extraordinary conditions related to the development and operation of aquaculture activities. Local governments and numerous interest groups will be involved in contributing information to the studies. The results will be a very useful starting point for local government planning. General studies of other areas as well as more detailed studies for specific areas where additional information is required may be done.

Information on programs, requirements and studies can be obtained from the Provincial and Federal government agencies listed in Appendix 1, pages 13 - 17.

4. REQUIREMENTS OF THE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY

To plan and regulate effectively, local government must take into consideration the major requirements of the subject activity. The highly variable and rapidly changing needs of different segments of the aquaculture industry present a number of challenges for the industry and local government.

During this rapid developmental phase of the aquaculture industry in British Columbia, it is important that local governments be very clear about what matters they need to regulate. However, it is also important to exercise caution in enacting regulations. With the industry-driven evolution of aquaculture comes the danger that local regulation designed for aquaculture as it already exists may inadvertently preclude or hamper the further development of an industry, which if allowed to proceed, could be beneficial to all.

The following examples serve to illustrate the differences in aquaculture operations which may need to be accommodated.

- a) For the purposes of zoning, the distinction between finfish versus shellfish rearing as separate operations is not absolute. Polyculture or joint rearing of two or more species, including marine plants, is currently in an experimental stage.
- b) Any one aquaculture operation may involve discrete activities on both upland and foreshore, including hatcheries, feedmills, growout areas, sea pens and processing on one site or on separate sites, each with different area or servicing requirements. While most aquaculture operators use both the upland and the foreshore for various phases of their farming operations, these phases do not necessarily occur at the same site. Furthermore, some operations are carried out virtually entirely on the upland while others are entirely water borne.
- c) Biophysical requirements vary within certain ranges for each species which may be cultured. Salinity, currents, temperatures, wave heights, turbulence, and water quality all can have some effect in determining where aquaculture operations may be viable.
- d) Technological changes are changing earlier assumptions about siting requirements. Some aquaculture operations may utilize sea pens for finfish which are capable of withstanding twelve foot high waves and may not need to be sited in sheltered bays and inlets. Similar changes in shellfish rearing technology may dramatically alter the size of area required. Other changes could affect land-based production systems, such as hatcheries.
- e) As noted, the structure of the aquaculture industry is evolving rapidly - particularly in salmon farming. While salmon production tended to be small and experimental in the past, new farms now being developed are tending to be larger, highly specialized operations.

Each new farm site will produce from 50 to over 1000 tonnes per year occupying from two to over 10 hectares. Operations will range from full time "family farm" units to vertically integrated corporate farms using several sites and employing a number of people in all facets of production, processing and marketing.

- f) Vertical integration in aquaculture means that a single corporate farm may include several specialized operations. Often located at different sites, these operations may include hatcheries, growout areas, processing plants and marketing operations.

Some of these activities can be readily isolated from one another while others have limited potential for isolation. For example, requiring that fish be moved from a growout site to a slaughter and processing facility elsewhere should only occur where the type and density of neighbouring uses makes this essential. While this specialization of facilities and site uses may be appropriate for vertically integrated farms, it is not so for a family farm operation. Allowing only the growing of fish at a site without providing for some processing could preclude salmon production on a relatively small scale.

In summary, there are few absolutes in the development of the aquaculture industry. It is clear that the variable requirements of the aquaculture industry, when combined with highly variable patterns and densities of upland development and other water uses, dictate that there is no such thing as a single model approach to assist local government to plan for, and where necessary, regulate aquaculture development and operation. Therefore it is essential that local governments seek the technical expertise within senior government agencies and industry and that flexible approaches be taken.

5. APPROACH TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING AND ZONING

As noted the Provincial Government will be undertaking a series of coastal studies. These will identify areas which are, because of conflicts with other significant uses or biophysical conditions, not suitable for finfish aquaculture. The information collected, while primarily intended to assist B.C. Lands with the review of finfish aquaculture license and lease applications, will be useful for local government planning.

It is also re-iterated that, in isolated, unsettled areas where most of the land has not been or is not expected to be alienated or settled, the Crown has the primary responsibility for planning and development control and local government regulation may not be needed. However, where private property interests are significant, local government regulation is essential to ensuring orderly coastal development.

a) Determining Areas for Aquaculture Development

After a local government has decided in general terms through consultation with senior government agency staff and the public that local planning and controls are necessary to facilitate the development of the industry and protect other existing and potential uses of coastal areas, consideration should be given to the capability, suitability, probability and acceptability of an area for aquaculture development.

Capability refers to the biophysical capability of local waters and upland areas to be utilized for aquaculture. Information will be available from coastal resource studies, and federal and provincial resource agencies. Broad scale data are now available and in many instances can be amplified by agency staff based upon specific studies or personal knowledge of local areas.

Suitability refers to a more policy-based judgement of whether a particular type of development is suitable and appropriate in a given area from the perspective of desirability or compatibility with other uses, or risk of contaminating or being contaminated. Where high capability for aquaculture has been determined, existing land and water uses, as well as existing plans and zoning should be examined to determine actual suitability for this use.

Probability of an aquaculture development succeeding and probable scale or type of operation are, of course, judgement calls which can best be made with some risk by those inside the industry and those working closely with the industry.

Acceptability to the public can be tested by way of informal public meetings and public hearings. The latter are required by statute prior to the adoption of an official community plan, rural land use or zoning bylaw. Public perceptions of what aquaculture is or how it affects other uses may be rigidly set resulting in an adverse reaction to a proposed development. The most constructive way to inform the public is to present and discuss information on capability, suitability and probability. Public information meetings where this material can be aired, along with either specific development proposals or general zoning proposals, will facilitate a constructive community dialogue on development of the aquaculture industry in relation to other existing or proposed land and water uses.

b) Preparing the Plan Designations and Zoning Provisions

Rather than lay out examples or prescribe model approaches for planning and regulation, because of the complexity of the industry and the variation of coastal conditions, the following questions are posed to help local governments prepare official community plan policies and designations, development permit area designations and related guidelines and bylaw or permit provisions.

Definitions:

When developing the definition of aquaculture in a plan or bylaw, a range of aquaculture activities must be considered.

- Should aquaculture include both shellfish, finfish or marine plant rearing, or do local conditions dictate a distinction?

- What activities are included within the definition of aquaculture: hatcheries, rearing areas, processing? What do these terms mean?

Permitted Uses:

- Are ancillary residential uses, whether land or water based desired?
- Are processing, storage, feed handling and storage, and other related uses necessary and if so, how may they best be permitted?

Land/Water Zoning:

- Should the surface of water be zoned along with the adjacent upland or separately?
- Should aquaculture be an exclusive or discrete water use and zone, or one of many uses permitted within a broad water zone or zones? What range of zoning categories are needed?
- Should upland operations be included in the agriculture zone?
- Are multiple zones required to distinguish between scale and intensities of development, finfish vs. shellfish operations, processing on- or off-site?
- Should areas be zoned ahead of development pressures based upon capability, suitability or should each proposal have to go through a rezoning process so that zoning provisions can be tailored to suit the specifics of the proposal?
- Should size of area or density limits be regulated? If so should this be done by defining size of lease area, volume of seapens, total fish biomass on-site, amount of fish harvested or some other measure? Note that this type of regulation is more appropriately left to senior government agencies.

Development Permits

- What environmental protection measures are required that can be addressed through siting, etc?
- Is there a need to specify building form and character?

Temporary Use Permits

- Should these be used?

6. THE PROVINCIAL APPROVALS PROCESS

Approval of an application for tenure for either Crown land, foreshore or water areas is the key Provincial decision-making point for aquaculture development. If it is not in the Provincial interest for aquaculture to be carried out in a certain area then it cannot legally occur if tenure is not granted. The tenure document specifies terms and conditions pertaining to Provincial interests and also indicates that local government bylaws are to be obeyed.

This chapter briefly describes the process used and considerations made in the approval of coastal finfish aquaculture tenure applications. It does not present the full process of aquaculture development approvals but focusses on matters of specific interest to local government. The following description draws on material supplied by the Ministry of Forests and Lands and this may be subject to change over time. B.C. Lands will inform local governments about any changes to the process, but from time to time it is advisable for local government staff to check with district offices of B.C. Lands on these procedures. Also any questions regarding these procedures should be directed to the District Land Manager.

a) Referral Process:

There are three types of applications which can be made for aquaculture tenure on the B.C. coast:

1. Investigative Permit - is available for a maximum of one year and allows for the investigation of a site to determine its suitability for aquaculture. It is not renewable, does not allow either development or production and does not guarantee that a subsequent license or lease will be issued.
2. License of occupation - is available for ten years.
3. Lease - is available initially for ten years and a replacement lease is available for an additional twenty years.

A license of occupation or lease is required before a fish farm can be developed and go into production.

Applications for these tenures must be made to the district offices of B.C. Lands. All applications, including an investigative permit, will be referred to relevant government agencies and interest groups. The District Land Manager has the discretion to refer investigative permit applications for information purposes after permits have been issued. Where there is a known local government interest in the area which may conflict with its possible use for aquaculture, then it is expected that this Manager will refer the investigative permit application to the appropriate local government prior to making a decision on issuance.

The principal referral agencies and their interests in proposed aquaculture operations are outlined below. Local governments should note that even though residents may have a broad range of interests with respect to a proposed aquaculture project, a local government should not expect to deal with all issues and concerns. Where issues relate to matters beyond local government jurisdiction, local government staff should suggest that these concerns be brought to the attention of the appropriate agency.

The referral agencies and their interests are as follows:

- the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries - assesses biophysical capability of site and evaluates technical merits of a proposed operation;
- the Ministry of Environment and Parks - environmental impact of site development, impact on park, recreational and ecological reserve values;
- the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans - impact on wild fish stock, fish habitat and water quality;
- the Federal Environmental Protection Service - water quality;
- the Coast Guard - navigational hazards;
- District forest office - access to forest resources and impact on coastal log handling and forest recreation areas;
- the appropriate local government - planning and zoning designations, development permit requirements, infrastructure support and public acceptability;
- Native Indian Bands - where reserve lands are potentially affected; and
- interest groups which are known to use or otherwise have an interest in an area.

In order to expedite the approvals process, B.C. Lands has requested that responses be returned within 30 days, however where circumstances warrant, such as where a local government requires additional time to consult with advisory committees, or to provide a Council, Board or Trust Committee resolution, then the response time can be extended to 60 days. Local government staff are encouraged to contact the District Land Manager immediately if the expected response time is not sufficient for the local government to make meaningful comments.

Referrals will be made to incorporated municipalities where an application is within 1 km seaward or 1 km either side of the municipal boundary. Regional districts and the Islands Trust will receive referrals for all areas within their boundaries, except

those which are more than 1 km within a municipality. Even where there is no intention to introduce local government regulations for aquaculture, for instance in remote areas, referrals to regional districts can help bring local knowledge about conditions in the area and its use to the attention of B.C. Lands.

B.C. Lands will advise referral groups and agencies about the outcome of their adjudication when requested do so on the referral response form. If local governments wish to be informed of the Ministry's decision regarding the application, they will have to request this. Where there is any disagreement with the decision, local government should pursue this immediately with the District Land Manager and beyond if necessary.

b) Development Plans

There will be only one tenure issued, and this will contain schedules regarding conditions and requirements expected of the applicant. To help determine these, all applicants for a license of occupation or lease are expected to submit, with their application, a detailed development plan which provides information on the proposed development. This will be referred to the above agencies and groups. Applicants are also required to directly inform owners of property located within 300 meters in from and one kilometre to either side of the proposed lease or license area, about their proposals. They are also required to place an advertisement and location map in the local newspaper.

The development plan will provide information on the location and size of the marine site, biophysical information on site capability, operational suitability information including scale of operation and water quality factors and information related to other coastal resource uses. The latter will deal with current upland, foreshore and water uses, as well as refer to official community plan policies and designations, and zoning for the proposed license or lease area and its surroundings.

In order to ensure that the application contains up-to-date information on local government planning policies and designations as well as regulations, it is recommended that the applicant or his agent contact local government for this information. Also, because this will be done relatively early in the approvals process, it gives a local government ample advance notice to begin to consider the proposed use of an area for aquaculture. Local governments can then work with the applicant during the preparation of the development plan and can use this lead time to consider the points that it would like to make when the application is referred to it by the District Land Manager for comment. Local governments are strongly encouraged to give serious attention to inquiries from applicants and to applications referred them for comment as soon as possible to avoid costly delays later in the review process.

7. CONCLUSION

This guide touches on a range of considerations that provincial agencies, local governments and the aquaculture industry should be mutually aware of with respect to local government jurisdictions and interests. It is intended to assist in making decisions on whether or not a local government should plan and regulate aquaculture, and if so how to approach this.

No single model approach is available to guide local governments in planning for aquaculture. The variable requirements of different types and scales of aquaculture operations and the rapidly evolving nature of the industry, when combined with highly variable patterns of upland and water uses, mitigate against having such a model. Local governments must rely on the technical expertise of staff in senior government agencies and the industry as well as seek input from the public to assist them in determining the need for and the type of planning and regulatory approach appropriate for local and industry needs.

Full participation in the Provincial approvals process is encouraged to help both local government and the industry to focus on key considerations and resolve issues during the preparation of an aquaculture development plan by applicants for Crown leases and licenses of occupation.

Important government agencies and other contacts are identified in Appendix 1 and the roles of key Provincial government agencies are described in Appendix 2. These appendices are intended to further assist local governments in planning for this important new coastal industry.

APPENDIX 1

KEY CONTACTS

The following list includes headquarters and regional office contacts for government agencies which are involved in coastal finfish aquaculture approvals, as well as other organizations interested in this activity. This list may not necessarily be complete and is subject to change. Where there is any doubt about which agency or person to contact please call the Provincial Aquaculture Coordinator in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries at (604) 356-1600. Rather than provide mailing addresses in all cases, telephone numbers are listed, and where these are not provided, please consult local telephone directories for the number.

1. PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

Aquaculture Coordinator
Aquaculture and Commercial Fisheries Branch
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
808 Douglas Street
Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Z7
356-1600

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

Victoria Offices (Environment)

Project Evaluation and Coastal Programs Section, Planning and
Assessment Branch (387-9685)

Recreational Fisheries Branch (387-9589)

Technical Services Section, Water Management Branch, (387-9976)

Resource Quality Section, Water Management Branch (387-9519)

Wildlife Branch (387-9731)

Regional Offices (Environment)

Vancouver Island (Nanaimo) 758-3951
Lower Mainland (Surrey) 584-8822
Northern Region (Prince George) 565-6400

Sub-regional Offices (Environment)

Williams Lake 398-4562
Smithers 847-7288

Provincial Parks and Ecological Reserves

Victoria 387-3987

MINISTRY OF FORESTS AND LANDS

B.C. Lands District Offices

Vancouver Island (Victoria) 387-5011
Lower Mainland (Burnaby) 660-5500
Skeena (Smithers) 847-7334
Cariboo (Williams Lake) 392-6261

B.C. Forests District Offices

Vancouver (Burnaby)
Mid-Coast (Hagensborg)
Campbell River (Campbell River)
Duncan (Duncan)
Port Alberni (Port Alberni)
Port McNeill (Port McNeill)
Powell River (Powell River)
Queen Charlotte (Queen Charlotte City)
Squamish (Squamish)
Prince Rupert (Prince Rupert)
North Coast (Prince Rupert)

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Financial Evaluation Branch
Programs and Business Development Division
(Vancouver) 660-3900

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Development Services Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs
747 Fort Street
Victoria, B.C. V8W 3E1
387-4039

Islands Trust 387-5219 (Victoria)

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Coastal Regional Districts and Municipalities

Kitimat Stikine Regional District 635-7251 (Terrace)
Kitimat 632-2161
Stewart 636-2251

Skeena Queen Charlotte Regional District 624-2002 (Prince Rupert)
Prince Rupert 627-1781
Masset 626-3995
Port Clements 557-4295
Port Edward 628-3667

Central Coast Regional District 982-2433 (Bella Coola)

Mount Waddington Regional District 956-3301 (Port McNeill)

Port Hardy 949-6665
Port McNeill 956-3111
Alert Bay 974-5213
Port Alice 284-3391

Comox-Strathcona Regional District 334-4452 (Courtenay)

Campbell River 287-2121
Comox 339-2202
Courtenay 334-4441
Gold River 283-2202
Sayward 282-5512
Tahsis 934-6344
Zeballos 761-4229

Nanaimo Regional District 390-4111 (Nanaimo)

Qualicum Beach 752-6921
Parksville 248-6144
Nanaimo 754-4251

Cowichan Valley Regional District 746-4485 (Duncan)

Duncan 746-6126
North Cowichan 746-7101
Ladysmith 245-2218

Capital Regional District 388-4421 (Victoria)

Victoria 385-5711
Central Saanich 652-4444
Esquimalt 385-2461
Metchosin 474-3167
Colwood 478-5541
Oak Bay 598-3311
Saanich 386-2241
North Saanich 656-0781
Sidney 656-1184

Powell River Regional District 483-3231 (Powell River)

Powell River 485-6291

Sunshine Coast Regional District 885-2261 (Sechelt)

Sechelt 885-1986
Gibsons 886-2274

Squamish-Lillooet Regional District 894-6371 (Squamish)

Squamish 892-5217

Greater Vancouver Regional District 432-6200 (Burnaby)

Lions Bay 921-9333
West Vancouver 922-1211
North Vancouver City 985-7761
North Vancouver District 987-7131
Vancouver 873-7011
Burnaby 294-7944
Richmond 278-5511
Delta 946-4141
Surrey 591-4011
White Rock 531-9111

3. FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

Chief, Aquaculture Divisions, (Vancouver) 666-3152

1. Field Services

Headquarters office (Vancouver) 666-3545
Fraser River Division (New Westminster)
South Coast Division

Nanaimo
Port Alberni
Campbell River
Victoria
Duncan
Comox
Tofino
Port Hardy
Alert Bay
Sooke
Sechelt
North Coast Division (Prince Rupert)
Bella Bella
River's Inlet
Kitimat
Queen Charlotte City
Masset

2. Scientific Services

Pacific Biological Station (Nanaimo) 756-7000

ENVIRONMENT CANADA

Environmental Protection Agency (North Vancouver) 985-6723

TRANSPORT CANADA

Canadian Coast Guard - Western Region

Navigable Waters (North Vancouver) 947-3731
Harbour and Ports Directorate (North Vancouver) 984-3803

CANADA PORTS CORPORATION

Vancouver Port Corporation 666-6785
Prince Rupert Port Corporation 627-7545

FEDERAL HARBOUR COMMISSIONS

Fraser River Harbour Commission (New Westminster) 524-6655
North Fraser Harbour Commission (Richmond) 273-1866
Port Alberni Harbour Commission 723-5312
Nanaimo Harbour Commission 753-4146

4. CONTACTS IN COASTAL FINFISH AQUACULTURE

B.C. Salmon Farmers Association
2459A Bellevue Ave.
West Vancouver, B.C. V7W 1E1
922-4525

Campbell River Aquaculture Association
301 St. Ann's Road
Campbell River, B.C. V9W 4C7
287-2121

Sunshine Coast Aquaculture Association
P.O. Box 2360
Sechelt, B.C. V0N 3A0
885-3619

Barkley Sound Growers Association
Box 17
Bamfield, B.C. V0R 1B0

Aquaculture Association of Canada
Pacific Biological Station
Hammond Bay Road
Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 5K6
756-7037

North Island Mariculture Assoc.
P.O. Box 1024
Port McNeill, B.C. V0N 2R0
956-4008

Aquaculture Association of B.C.
Site 52, Comp. 103
5331 Hammond Bay Road
Nanaimo, B.C. V9V 5N7 (758-2922)

NOREDCO (Northern Economic
Development Corporation)
P.O. Box 158
Prince Rupert, B.C. V8J 3P6
624-3106

APPENDIX 2

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ROLES REGARDING THE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

As lead agency for the Province, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is responsible for policy development and program co-ordination for the Aquaculture Industry. Finfish and shellfish are the major sectors serviced with some support given to other groups such as marine plants. The Ministry:

- i) co-ordinates the roles of other provincial ministries, federal departments, education and research institutions along with other agencies involved in aspects of aquaculture development;
- ii) administers policy necessary to facilitate industrial growth for a market-oriented business sector;
- iii) is responsible for direct delivery of programs such as:
 - a) knowledge development and transfer (particularly extension and applied research),
 - b) market promotion and development,
 - c) product development, and
 - c) fish health (veterinary) services; and
- iv) provides limited financial assistance through existing programs which are available to all farmers in British Columbia.

AQUACULTURE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Committee, formed in May, 1985, is chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Through the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Committee reports to the Deputy Minister's Committee on Economic Development. The Committee provides a mechanism for information exchange between Ministries and advises on policy related to the integration of government programs dealing with aquaculture. The Committee meets as required every one to two months. All provincial Ministries involved with programs for, or impacting upon, the aquaculture industry are represented on the Committee at both management and senior working levels. Member Ministries include: Forests and Lands, Environment and Parks, Advanced Education and Job Training, Municipal Affairs, Finance and Corporate Relations, Economic Development as well as Tourism, Recreation and Culture.

The Committee's terms of reference include:

- a) information exchange;
- b) co-ordination of programs for the aquaculture industry;
- c) policy development and
- d) problem resolution.

MINISTRY OF FORESTS AND LANDS

The District offices of B.C. Lands are responsible for the allocation and administration of crown foreshore and water sites for aquaculture. They ensure that the requirements of other government agencies, organizations and interested individuals considered before land tenure documents are issued.

B. C. Lands leads coastal resource identification studies which will provide information on competing resource values or land use to assist in the review of applications for finfish aquaculture leases and licenses of occupation.

The District Forest offices advise on applications for Crown tenure with reference to minimizing potential conflict between proposed aquaculture operations and forest industry needs for coastal log dumping, storage and transport, or with recreation activities on adjacent provincial forest lands.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

The Ministry of Environment and Parks is responsible for assisting with the selection of biophysically suitable aquaculture development areas in relation to its responsibility for habitat and general environmental protection. It is also responsible for setting and enforcing environmental standards pursuant to the Waste Management Act, Pesticide Control Act, Water Act and Environment Management Act to assure that the interests of the Ministry are not adversely affected by aquaculture development. The Ministry also administers freshwater domestic fish ponds and all aspects of the provincial recreational fishery and associated fish hatcheries.

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Economic Development:

- i) administers financial assistance programs for aqua business;
- ii) conducts business related counselling to facilitate the development of the aquaculture industry;
- iii) facilitates foreign investment and development of export markets; and
- iv) conducts industry development activities in conjunction with Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries such as business related counselling.

MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION AND JOB TRAINING

The Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training provides training through community colleges for technologists, technicians, farm workers and farm managers in the aquaculture industry. Aquaculture related research and development as well as education in related sciences is provided through British Columbia's Universities.

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs assists local governments in planning for aquaculture development. The Ministry:

- i) assists local governments with their land use planning programs (note that land, under the Municipal Act includes the surface of water);
- ii) approves official community plans and land use bylaws in areas outside of municipalities (unorganized areas);
- iii) facilitates local government input into inter-agency planning and referral processes with regard to aquaculture; and
- iv) provides planning support services to the Islands Trust.